



Urban District of Ilfracombe.



ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1964

INCLUDING THE

Report ^{of} _{the} Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Report of the Public Health Inspector.

Urban District of Ilfracombe.



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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
ILFRACOMBE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Ilfracombe Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1964.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. H. MORLEY,
O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Staff :

Part-Time Officer :

Medical Officer of Health—

A. H. MORLEY, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Whole-Time Officers :

*Senior Public Health Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent,
Housing Officer, Petroleum Inspector.*

W. H. KARSLAKE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Clerk—*R. J. SLOCOMBE (To August, 1964)

B. T. DOWN (From August, 1964)

Statistics.

General Statistics.

Area (Land and Inland Water)	...	...	5,627 acres
Population :—			
Mid 1964 Estimate	...	...	8,200
Rateable Value (1-4-64)	...	...	£322,962
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£1,274
Bright sunshine during 1964	...	...	1614.5 hours
Rainfall during 1964	...	...	31.13 inches

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.	Males	Females	Total
Live Births	60	69	129
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)			15.7
do.	do.	(corrected)	20.1
LIVE BIRTH RATE FOR ENGLAND & WALES			18.4
Still-births	4	—	4
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births			30
Total live and still-births	64	69	133
Infant deaths, under 1 yr.	2	—	2
„ „ „ 4 wks.	—	—	Nil
„ „ „ 1 wk.	—	—	Nil
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total			33.9
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ —legitimate			26.3
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ —illegitimate			66.7
Neo Natal „ „ „ „ „ „ „ —first four wks.			Nil
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			11.6
Maternal deaths (including abortion)			Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births			Nil

DEATHS.	Males	Females	Total
	66	77	143
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population)		...	17.1
Corrected Death Rate (per 1,000 population) i.e., the rate when adjusted for age and sex distribution to make it comparable with other districts in England and Wales.		...	11.6
Death Rate for England and Wales. (per 1,000 population)		...	11.3

Table showing the certified Causes of Death in the district during 1964.

Registrar General's Figures.

				Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	...	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	10	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	6	8
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	7	15
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	19	7
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	2
Other heart disease	...	...	...	12	19
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	5
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	—	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	—	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	1	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	3	4
All other accidents	...	...	...	—	1
				—	—
Total all causes	...	...	...	66	77

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Hospitals.

The hospital services for Ilfracombe and the surrounding areas are administered by the South-West Regional Hospital Board through the North Devon Hospital Management Committee.

The hospitals situated in the town are the Ilfracombe and District Tyrrell Hospital which has 32 beds and the Bicklecombe Hospital which has ten beds for convalescent patients, ten for maternity cases and four ante-natal beds.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases.

The Kingsley Hospital at Bideford is available for infectious diseases other than small pox.

Small Pox.

Upton Pyne Hospital near Exeter is the one to which any cases of small pox would be sent.

Special ambulance transport can be obtained by contacting the Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter, Telephone No. 67158.

Disinfection. The disinfectant at the Hospital is retained, but having been out of use for several years is not available for operation in emergency.

Laboratory Facilities. Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter.

Ambulance Services. Two motor ambulances, under the control of the County Health Authority, are stationed at Ilfracombe and operated by the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Orthopædic Clinic. Held at Boutport Street, Barnstaple, the first Friday in each month at 11 a.m. by appointment.

Chest Clinic. At the North Devon Infirmary Annexe, Barnstaple. Sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. for clinic and X Ray examinations, and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Venereal Diseases Clinic. This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.

Females : Mondays 4-0 p.m. Thursdays 4-30 p.m.

Males : Mondays 5-15 p.m. Thursdays 5-45 p.m.

The following sessions are held at the Welfare Centre, Market Street :—

Child Welfare Centre	Thursdays, 2—4-30 p.m.
Ante Natal Clinic	2nd & 4th Mondays 2-30 to 4-30 p.m.
School Clinic	Daily 9—9-15 a.m. during term.
Consultation Clinic School Children	1st & 3rd Thursdays, 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Dental Clinic	Fridays, 9-30 to 11-30 a.m.
Polio Immunisation Clinic	Fridays, 2 p.m. BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.
Ophthalmic Clinic	3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m.—12 noon odd months, January, etc.
Speech Therapy	Alternate Mondays, 9-30 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4-30 p.m.
Chiropody Clinic	Tuesdays, 9 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.
Hearing Assessment Clinic	2nd Tuesdays, 10 a.m.—12 noon.

**CLASSIFIED SUMMARY OF ALL INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1964.**

Disease	Ages of Cases Notified										Ages at Death						
	Under 1		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Total		25 & over	15	10	5	3	2	1	Under 1	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Diphtheria
Dysentery
Encephalitis
Erysipelas
Food Poisoning
Malaria
Measles
Meningococcal Infection
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Pneumonia
Acute Poliomyelitis
Puerperal Pyrexia
Scarlet Fever
Small Pox
Paratyphoid Fever
Enteric or Typhoid Fever
Whooping Cough

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1964.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 45 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 55 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
55 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES AND FEVERS.

The following Infectious Diseases and Fevers are compulsorily notifiable in this district :—

Cholera	Pneumonia (Acute Influenzal)
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	Pneumonia (Acute Primary)
Dysentery (Bacillary or Amoebic)	Poliomyelitis (Acute Paralytic)
Encephalitis (Acute Infective)	Poliomyelitis (Acute Non-Paralytic)
Encephalitis (Acute Post Infectious)	Puerperal Pyrexia
Erysipelas	Relapsing Fever
Food Poisoning	Scarlet Fever
Malaria	Small Pox
Measles	Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)
Meningococcal Infection	Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers
Plague	Typhus Fever
	Whooping Cough

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47.

No action was taken in 1964 under this Act.

MEALS ON WHEELS.

This Service, run by the W.V.S., commenced 1963 by serving 15 meals to persons in need of the service twice weekly, during 1964 increased to 30 meals per session.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1964.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ilfracombe Urban District
Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my sixth Annual Report relating to the work of my Department for the year ended December 31st, 1964.

On Housing, the completion of the first Council Accommodation since 1956 in the form of 20 single bedroomed flats at Horne Road, will I hope be the forerunner of a continuing house building programme which will enable the Council to proceed with slum clearance and re-development of the areas cleared.

The construction of the new ladies conveniences on the front will go some way to meeting the need for additional sanitary accommodation, but the scheme prepared in 1963 as an interim measure will probably have to serve the area of the Sea Front until such time as the wings of the Victoria Pavilion are reconstructed, when it is hoped that larger and better toilet facilities will be provided for both Ladies and Gentlemen. The loss of some area of the Gent's Toilet accommodation in order to provide sanitary accommodation for the Theatre was unavoidable and the provision of sanitary accommodation for the Theatre which I have

advocated for many years has materialised. A scheme for providing sanitary accommodation for the Alexandra Theatre, and public conveniences to replace the unsatisfactory Toilets at Market Street and Avenue Road was prepared and accepted by the Council and it is hoped that this scheme will materialize in the coming year.

The Council's decision to pass the street sweeping and litter service to the Engineer's Department has reduced the number of the outdoor staff under my control and made the interchange of labour between the street cleansing and refuse collection services a little more difficult. The continued increase in the quantity of refuse resulting from the increase in food and other packaging materials together with requests for collections from outlying areas and the reduction in the use of solid fuel fires has stretched the resources of the service to its limits particularly during the Summer Season when time is lost through traffic congestion and difficulty of access to premises for the removal of refuse.

The administration of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1964, was added to my duties. The Housing Act, 1964, brought additional responsibilities, particularly in relation to Houses in Multiple Occupation on the Local Authority, but its operation has not been enforced, and without additional staff it will be impossible to carry out the necessary inspections of either Housing in Multiple Occupation or Offices and Shops.

During the year I have made 3,133 visits, and granted 779 interviews in relation to environmental health.

Mr. Slocombe transferred to the Engineer's Department in August, and Mr. B. Down was appointed as Clerk in the Department.

The year has seen progress and I should like to thank the Members and Officers of the Council for their support and help during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. KARSLAKE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE, 1964.

Public Health				<i>Visits</i>	<i>Revisits</i>
General	...	...	...	96	82
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	—	—
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	16	2
Refuse (including bins)	...	...	...	251	1
Refuse (Trade)	...	...	...	13	—
Litter	...	...	...	5	—
Accumulations	...	...	...	1	1
Camping and Caravans	...	...	...	31	1
Drains	...	...	...	58	112
Drains tested	...	...	...	51	2
Sewers and Sewage disposal	...	...	...	21	16
Insect Pests	...	...	...	16	5
Refuse Tip	...	...	...	215	—
Street Cleansing	...	...	...	86	—
Complaints	...	...	...	128	21
Rodent Control	...	...	...	28	12
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	85	4
Pet Shops	...	...	...	3	—
Depot	...	...	...	76	—
Water Supply	...	...	...	2	—
Theatre/Entertainments	...	...	...	2	—
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	2	—
Sanitary Accommodation (Section 44)	...	...	...	6	—
Diseases of Animals	...	...	...	12	—
Smoke	...	...	...	—	—
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	...	...	...	2	—
Housing					
General	...	...	...	53	69
Overcrowding	...	...	...	1	4
Grants	...	...	...	21	8
Inspections (Regulations)	...	...	...	5	1
Applications	...	...	...	113	—
Interviews	...	...	...	294	—
Sites	...	...	...	—	—
Rent Acts	...	...	...	6	—
Complaints	...	...	...	101	1
Conversions	...	...	...	—	—
Certificates of disrepair	...	...	...	2	1

				<i>Visits</i>	<i>Revisits</i>
Petroleum Act	...	...	...	17	11
Petroleum Tank Tests		...	...	18	14
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963				16	—
Factories (with power)	...	...	...	17	3
(without power)		...	...	4	—
Food and Drugs					
Regulations	...	...	...	68	17
Ice Cream	...	...	...	3	—
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	3	—
Meat and Foods	...	...	...	18	1
Markets	...	...	...	3	—
Meetings	...	...	...	70	—
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	238	—
Interviews, etc.	...	...	...	779	—

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no houses registered in the district.

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

Refuse	...	...	...	...	401
Drains, sewers and closets		...	...	...	44
Food and Drugs	...	...	...	...	11
Housing matters	...	...	...	...	7
Holiday Accommodation		...	...	...	9
Street cleansing	...	...	...	...	12
Smoke	...	...	...	...	2
Water supply	...	...	...	...	2
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	90
Animals, Birds and Insects		...	...	...	16
Dogs fouling footpaths	...	...	...	...	4
Accumulations and Litter		...	...	...	17
Other Public Health matters		...	...	...	8
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	6
Noise	..	...	...	...	4
Other Departments	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	15
Total				...	652

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Summary of items which received attention

Hot Water provided to washbasin	...	...	...	1
Intervening ventilated lobby provided between food room and W.C.				1
Rooms decorated	...	...	...	4
Walls and floors cleaned	...	...	...	4
Sink replaced	...	...	...	1
Working surfaces repaired	...	...	...	3

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS RECORDED.

Work done 1964 as a result of action taken :—

	<i>Informal Notice</i>	<i>Statutory Notice</i>
Drains cleared	22	7
Drains repaired	15	1
New chambers constructed	7	—
New covers to inspection chambers provided	3	—
Chambers repaired	1	1
Insanitary gullies replaced	4	—
Premises connected to Sewerage System from septic tank drainage	1	—
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired	1	—
Rain water pipe repaired	1	—
Waste pipes repaired	1	—
Roofs repaired	5	1
Walls repaired	2	1
Ceilings repaired	1	—
Dustbins provided	2	—
Doors repaired	1	—
Gutters repaired	1	—
Windows repaired	1	5
Accumulations removed	8	—
Rooms disinfested	25	—
Premises treated for dry rot	1	—
Rising dampness treated	—	2

During the year, 101 Informal Notices and 11 Statutory Notices
were served under the Public Health Acts.

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
Public Health Acts	78	6
Housing Acts	—	5
Food and Drugs Act	16	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	1	—
Factories Act	2	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	3	—
Disease of Animals Act	1	—
Total	101	11

Factories Act, 1961.

I. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	20	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	29	4	—	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	4	—	—	—
Total	48	24	Nil	Nil

2. **Cases in which Defects were found.**

Particulars	Number of Cases in which Defects were				Number of defects in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

OUTWORK.

SECTION 110

SECTION 111

Nature of Work	Number of outworkers in August	Number of Cases of Default in sending lists	Number of prosecutions for failure to send lists	Number of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing Apparel —Making etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—
Plastics ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shoe repairs	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Clean Air Act. While Ilfracombe is essentially a health resort with little atmospheric pollution from manufacturing processes, too often inefficient and non smoke consuming solid fuel appliances are being installed both in new houses and in conversions.

Sewerage and Drainage. In January the Council agreed to defer consideration of a scheme for sewerage the village of Lee. I was instructed to inspect and report on the individual drainage of the properties in the village, but the time to undertake this work has not been found.



Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(a) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	20
(b) By private enterprise	...	...	...	44

Housing Statistics.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.				
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...			80
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...			162
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations				5
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...			6
(c) Number of notices served to remedy defects	...			4
2. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	...	...	...	—
3. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED AS A RESULT OF ACTION UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS	...	...	...	3
4. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED :				
After informal action	...	...	...	75
After formal action under				
(a) Public Health Acts (1) by Owners	...	...		7
(2) by L.A. in default	...			2
(b) Housing Acts	...	...	...	—

Housing. The housing problem has not diminished during the year although the provision of the old people's flats at Horne Road have provided a small help in a long felt need in the district for housing of this class. Mrs. Cadger, the warden, carries out her duties in a most satisfactory manner, and the Council were fortunate in obtaining the services of one so interested in this arduous, and at times, difficult position. No great progress was made in the conversion into flats of the three properties purchased for this purpose, and I hope to report more progress next year. No progress was made in the improvement of the 12 flats at Quayfield.

The Housing Act, 1964, has given the Council additional powers in relation to Houses in Multiple Occupation and for the compulsory improvement of dwellings but with no staff to deal with these matters it is unlikely that the legislation will at present be of any help in improving the housing conditions in the District.

Action under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957, resulted in two undertakings to make fit, and in three undertakings not to occupy for human habitation.

During the year, the following properties were deleted from the Slum Clearance Programme : 10 Osborne Road, 4 and 7 Albert Court. And two other properties were permitted to be occupied on a temporary basis : 4 Cuddiford's Passage, 8 Lewis' Passage.

Re-housing. 13 Council houses were let during the year as a result of changes of tenancy, and 9 tenants exchanged within the Council's own houses. The 20 flats at Horne Road were allocated, including the one to the warden. It was again encouraging to have an even larger number of new houses constructed by private enterprise than last year.

Overcrowding. One case of overcrowding was reported and the tenants were rehoused by the Council after service of Statutory Notice.

Certificates of Disrepair. One application for certificate of disrepair was received during the year, but was cancelled as the flat was held by the Court to be de-controlled.

Camping Grounds and Caravan Sites Control of Development Act, 1960. There are 4 sites licenced under the Act, and one site is operated by the Caravan Club. In no case has all the work required on the licence been completed. Four sites are used for tenting (including one under the control of the Camping Club of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and sanitary accommodation and water supply is available.

32 visits were paid to camps during the year.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply is controlled by the North Devon Water Board. 71 bacteriological samples were taken by the Board and all proved satisfactory.

The following information has been supplied by the Board.

The water supply has been entirely satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

Bacteriological samples are taken weekly and duplicate examination results are sent to the Council. These samples are taken from consumers' taps at various points in the town. Samples for bacteriological analyses are not normally taken of the raw water as this is known to vary from day to day according to rainfall.

The water supplied from Hore Down is slightly plumbo-solvent at the source, although this is corrected by treatment at Friendship before the water is put into supply.

No action has been necessary with regard to contamination.

The number of dwelling houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains are respectively 2,942 and 8,460, and by means of standpipes 3 and 6 respectively.

Swimming Baths. The Council operate one of the largest covered sea water swimming baths in the South West. It is very old and in need of improvement.

There is one Private Swimming Bath attached to a Hotel. The water is filtered and chlorinated.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

No premises are used as slaughterhouses in the district.

The number of food and other shops in this area are :

Cafés	...	...	53
Canteens	...	...	9
Bakehouses	...	...	5
Grocers and Dairies	...	...	38
Greengrocers	...	...	11
Butchers	...	...	12
Fishmongers	...	...	4
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	5
Confectioners, Tobacconists and Newsagents	...	...	25
Public Houses and Licensed Premises	...	...	27
Ladies' and Gents' Outfitters	...	...	24
Boot and Shoe Shops	...	...	5
Multiple Stores	...	...	4
Jewellers and Opticians	...	...	5
Chemists and Toilet	...	...	5
Fancy Goods, Toys and Photography	...	...	28
Hairdressers	...	...	7
Furniture Shops	...	...	1
Ironmongers, Decorators and Cycles	...	...	11
Electrical Goods	...	...	4
Pet Shops and Seed Merchants	...	...	3
Garages and Petroleum Sales	...	...	18
Betting Shops	...	...	2

Unsound Food surrendered as unfit for human consumption comprised :

1 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.	Meat and Sausages.
2 cwts. 1 qr. ...	Fish
10 cwts. 3 qrs. ...	Other Foods

Unsound food is disposed of by burying at the Council Refuse Tip.

Food Poisoning. No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Table A. Registrations and General Inspections.

Class of Premises	Number of Premises regd. during the year	Total number of regd. Premises at end of year	Number of registered Premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	31	31	—
Retail Shops ...	66	66	7
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	2	2	—
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	22	22	—
Fuel Storage Depots ...	1	1	—
TOTALS	122	122	7

Table B. Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises ... 16

Table C. Persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed		
	M	F	Total
Offices	85	62	147
Retail Shops	131	201	332
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses ...	5	3	8
Catering establishments open to the public	82	93	175
Canteens	—	—	—
Fuel Storage Depots	2	—	2
TOTALS	305	359	664

Table D. Exemptions. Nil

Table E. Prosecutions. Nil

Table F. Inspectors.

Number of Inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	One
Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	None

MILK SUPPLY.

The County Council's Licence permits pasteurising at the Local Dairies under the Food and Drugs Act.

Ice Cream. No samples were taken during 1964.

There are 4 premises registered for the manufacture, and 74 premises licensed for the sale, of ice cream.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960. 85 visits were made in connection with the regulations.

Food & Drugs Sampling.

Devon County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for this area.

Pest Control.

Wasps. Some difficulty is experienced each summer by infestation of wasps. In all cases advice is given on the best methods to be adopted for their eradication.

Flies. Special attention is paid to the treatment of the refuse tip, this being the main breeding ground in the district, and the tip received constant treatment during the season.

Rodent Control.

Rodent Control is carried out on a part time basis by one of the Council's employees who does the routine inspections and treatments. 65 premises were treated during the year necessitating 305 visits. Warfarin was used in all cases with success. During the year minor infestations were recorded throughout the area.

The Refuse Tip, which would provide the main breeding ground for rodents has been kept under daily observation, and immediately any rats were seen treatment with Warfarin was commenced and continued until all the rats were disposed of, and this was necessary on only two occasions during the year when rats were apparently brought to the Tip in refuse.

Public Cleansing Service.

The collection and disposal of house and trade refuse, the cleaning of streets and disposal of street sweepings, the collection, separation and sale of salvage and the cleansing of public conveniences are duties under my control, but in April the Council decided that street sweepings and litter clearing should pass to the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. This has made the interchange of staff between the refuse collection and street sweeping services a little more difficult, but with co-operation exchanges have been made. When I took up my appointment the capacity of litter receptacles in concrete bins and wire baskets was some 25 cubic feet, and in the five years this was increased tenfold, mainly by improvised bins for use at lay-bys, car parks, etc., but also with improved litter receptacles. A new vehicle was purchased to ensure adequate collection of litter.

REFUSE

Vehicles. The Council have three vehicles in use, one of which is laid up during the winter. They are :

- (1) Karrier Bantam Fore and Aft Tipper, purchased 1959.
- (2) Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper with compression plate, purchased in May, 1960.
- (3) Ford 15 cwt., purchased August, 1964.

Collection. Refuse is collected weekly, with two collections each week during the summer from Hotels and Guest Houses which are assessed as such for rating purposes. Further collections are made on payment, if requested. The charge made is 10/- per bin per additional collection per week for the season, and pro rata charges are made for the collection of trade refuse, varying from a minimum of £1 11s. 6d. to £5 12s. 6d, according to the quantity collected.

Refuse Disposal. The Refuse Tip at Killacleave Wood continues to serve the District and the disposal has proved satisfactory in spite of the difficult working conditions.

The volume of House Refuse continues to increase at an annual rate of about 10%. The amount deposited consisted of 2,125 loads estimated to weigh 4,364 tons, in addition to 4,313 loads of material from the Surveyor's Department, soil and other covering materials. The great increase in the amount of covering material brought to the Tip does not help in keeping the faces adequately covered to the extent that would be anticipated because it arrives too quickly, often four or five lorries being loaded continuously by large mechanical shovels.

The refuse in Summer is treated for fly control and a constant watch kept on any rodent infestation.

The Ferguson Tractor which has given good service requires replacing with a heavier vehicle, preferably one on tracks, as the cost and loss of time due to punctures reduces its efficiency.

GULLEY EMPTYING

The Surveyor's Department operates a gulley emptier which is maintained on the old General Purpose Lorry.

SALVAGE

The following table gives particulars of sales during 1964.

Tons.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.			£	s.	d.
2	8	1	14	Mixed Iron	...	11	10	10
	1	2	19	Textiles and Feathers	...	2	0	6
	2	3	2	Non-ferrous Metals	...	8	19	5

Pet Animals Act, 1961.

One shop was licensed under the above Act.

Diseases of Animals Act. Waste Food Order.

4 Plants were registered for boiling waste foods under the above Order. Only two were operating. Thirteen visits were made to licensed premises.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act.

One premises is registered under the above Act.

Public Sanitary Conveniences.

List of Public Conveniences in the Urban District :—

Situation			Accommodation		
		Females		Males	
Hele	...	2 W.C.s	2 W.C.s	3	Urinal Stalls
Brimlands	...	2 "	2 "	3	" "
Shearclose	...	3 "	3 "	4	" "
St. James' Park	...	1 "	1 "	2	" "
Pier	...	7 "	4 "	7	" "
Cheyne	...	2 "	2 "	3	" "
Pavilion	...	14 "	6 "	8	" "
Avenue Road	...	7 "	Nil	Nil	" "
Market Square	...	Nil	2 W.C.s	5	Urinal Stalls
Northfield Road	...	3 W.C.s	3 "	5	" "
Church Hill	...	4 "	3 "	6	" "
Bicclescombe Park	...	2 "	2 "	3	" "
The Cove	...	3 "	2 "	3	" "
Lee	...	4 "	2 "	3	" "

The toilets at the Pavilion were out of service until June due to alterations, and with the provision of cubicles for washing, the necessity of keeping an attendant on duty all the time has ceased. The Conveniences at the Pier are manned and cleaned by the Harbour staff.

All other toilets are visited and cleaned at least twice daily.

The large number of small units makes the supervision and cleansing quite difficult, and the need for one building in the vicinity of the Capstone with a sufficient number of toilets cannot be over-emphasised.

The Public Conveniences at Avenue Road and Market Street are also used as the sanitary accommodation for the theatre to which they are attached, and plans for the alterations to provide suitable sanitary accommodation for the Theatre and public conveniences has been prepared.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936.

28 renewals of licences were granted, permitting the storage of an aggregate of 68,370 gallons of petroleum spirit and mixtures.

The amount received by the Council was £25 5s. 0d.

The number of inspections was 28. In addition 32 visits were made in connection with the testing of 6 tanks. Two disused tanks were made safe during the year.

With five modern filling stations with service away from the highway now operating in the District it is hoped that more will be provided and that all the older filling stations will gradually be replaced, resulting in better control over this commodity possessing such potential danger, especially in the densely built up area of the town.

During the year the following work was completed as a result of notices to licencees :

Tanks made safe	...	1	Tank provided with lock	...	1
Vent pipe repaired	...	1	Pipe to tank sealed	...	1
Pit cleaned	...	1	Fire fighting equipment provided		1

